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could well have been discussed along with the Scout movement and the Camp Fire Girls. The suggestion that the Scout movement should be made a part of the public-school system seems to be a very excellent one. Undoubtedly the movement to have its largest value and a real permanency must be insured of more continuous support than its present method provides. Moreover, since both the Scouts and the Camp Fire Girls movements are essentially educational in character there is no reason why they should not be essentially a part of the established educational institutions.

There is a good outline of "The Recreation Survey," its purposes and methods. The final chapter is devoted to a discussion of the cost of providing recreational facilities compared with the financial saving to the community, which might be accomplished through providing adequate facilities.

The volume is a useful addition to the very limited literature of the recreation movement. It will be found most useful by those who wish a brief summing up of the practices and tendencies in the United States. It has little that is new for the critical student.

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*A History of American Journalism.* By JAMES MELVIN LEE. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1917. Pp. x+462. Illustrated. \$3.50 net.

*A History of American Journalism* by James Melvin Lee, head of the New York University School of Journalism, supplies students of journalism throughout the country with a reference work long needed. Its only predecessor was Hudson's well-known work, which, though it included much interesting matter, was chaotic in form and brought the history of American newspapers down only to the year 1870 or thereabout. It was, so to speak, only the baby-book of journalism, for the greatest developments of our press have taken place within the last fifty years.

Mr. Lee's book presents a vast mass of information in orderly and intelligible form, and its facts have evidently been sought for and verified from the most authentic sources. Its twenty chapters record the beginnings of our colonial press, tell the story of the partisan press of our early national history, enumerate the most important papers in all the states and territories, and endeavor to distribute as justly as possible the emphasis to be accorded the many and various aspects of so com-

plicated a development. As a storehouse of facts and as a book of reference the book is invaluable. But Mr. Lee writes as a journalist, not as a historian. The picturesque details of newsgetting, the "beats," the pony expresses, the personal peculiarities of the great editors, improvements in the printing press, and similar themes interest him far more than the significance of the press in our growth as a people. When he touches upon the larger questions he is facile and genial rather than enlightening. Therefore, when in the last two chapters he discusses "The Period of Social Readjustment" and "Journalism of Today," Mr. Lee presents something like a defense of the modern newspaper, dismissing the charges that it is commercialized and that it suppresses and distorts the news, or refuting them with an easy optimism. It is an optimism which is not shared by many practical newspaper men today. I paraphrase the deliberate judgment of an editorial writer upon one of our larger papers: The social revolution which has already begun in this country will be an accomplished fact long before any intimation of it will be vouchsafed by our newspapers.

The more intelligent young men in journalism are aware of the ineffectiveness of our journals as organs of popular expression and are doing what they can to make the press more responsive to its task. But that certain ominous facts demand frank recognition rather than a complacent and partisan denial is not evident from Mr. Lee's excellent but too amiable work. The author would have done better to make his recent history purely a record of obvious facts and citations of opinions from authority rather than seem to pass in so light and confident a fashion upon problems which no one concerned for the purity and adequacy of our news as a basis for an enlightened public opinion can view without the gravest apprehension.

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*Self-Surveys by Teacher-Training Schools.* By WILLIAM H. ALLEN and CARROLL G. PEARSE. Yonkers, N.Y.: World Book Co., 1917. Pp. xvi+207. \$2.25.

Educational efficiency rests ultimately upon the efficiency of teachers; and this in turn is determined by the character and efficiency of the teacher-training institutions. And now that we are attempting to evaluate the results of education through measurement, and the relative efficacy of the different factors involved in the process, naturally we meet with the two relatively new tasks of devising means and methods